The QUARAE

Know Your Privileges! Misconceptions Abound Regarding Tech HF Privileges:

Some Technician licensees who gained new privileges February 23 remain unaware or uninformed as to what they may and may not do on the HF bands, says ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. In addition to all Amateur Radio operating privileges above 50 MHz, Technicians who never passed a Morse code test now have CW privileges on certain segments of 80, 40 and 15 meters plus CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on certain segments of 10 meters. And that's it. "Know your privileges," Henderson advises all Amateur Radio licensees. He says some Technicians apparently believe their new HF phone privileges go far beyond what they really have.

"Technicians have no phone privileges on any HF band other than 10 meters, period!" Henderson emphasizes. "That's the bottom line. If you want to operate phone on the other HF bands, you'll have to upgrade to General or Amateur Extra class." A lot of Technician licensees appear to have done just that, according to statistics compiled by Joe Speroni, AH0A. So far in March, the number of General class licensees is up by more than 2700 over the February figure to 134,173, after hitting a 5-year low of just under 131,000 in January. The number of Technicians dropped by 4655 in the same period to 318,838. Speroni notes, however, that his mid-month figures tend to underestimate actual totals. Most Technician license holders face a learning curve to take advantage of their new CW privileges on HF, but they no longer have to pass a Morse code examination. Technicians also may use their new HF privileges without having to apply for them first. No other license class automatically acquired additional privileges February 23. The "omnibus" rule changes effective last December 15 did not give Technician licensees without Morse code credit any additional privileges either.

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Just a Reminder …RAE Meeting this Thursday!
The Radio Association of Erie Meeting will be held on Thursday April 5th at 7 pm at the Red Cross Office located at 4961 Pittsburgh Avenue located off of West Grandview Boulevard

Program Topic: World Radiosport Team Championship Video

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Club Repeaters
• Erie 146.610– PL 186.2
• Waterford 146.820– PL 186.2

Club Website:
www.raerie.org

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Skywarn Training

Skywarn training will be held at the Hamot Medical Center Auditorium on Tuesday April 24th. Registration will be starting at 6 pm with the class starting at 6:30. If you are interested in attending, please contact Steve LaJohn N3SRD via e-mail at slajohn@neo.rr.com or on the ARES/SKYWARN Net on Sunday Night on the 146.61 and 146.820 repeaters

Know Your Privileges! continued

Henderson further warns new Techs not to extrapolate additional phone privileges by misconstruing the FCC Part 97 rules to mean something they don't. "Calls I've been getting lately indicate that some misinformed individuals believe Technicians may operate 'digital voice' on 80, 40 and 15, where they have only CW privileges," he says. "Not true. Digital voice is really digitized voice, and it's not permitted in non-phone band segments. "Henderson reiterates that Technicians do not have FM voice privileges on 10 meters -- or on any other HF band, for that matter. The HF privileges all Technicians now have are equivalent to those that Novice licensees enjoy, Henderson notes. "This also means the 200 W maximum power limit still applies, regardless of where you operate in the HF bands," he says. Technicians may operate at up to the legal limit on VHF and UHF, however.

On 10 meters, Technician and Novice licensees have CW, RTTY and data privileges from 28.000 to 28.300 MHz, and CW and SSB privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz. "We're sorry that the sun-spots aren't favoring 10 meters at this point in the sunspot cycle, but they will in a few years," Henderson allowed.

In addition, Technicians and Novices have CW -- and only CW -- privileges on from 3.525 to 3.600 MHz on 80 meters, from 7.025 to 7.125 MHz on 40 meters and 21.025 to 21.200 MHz on 15 meters. Henderson believes at least some of the confusion may have originated with a few brand-new or inexperienced Technician licensees who heard that the FCC deleted the Morse code requirement to obtain an Amateur Radio license, but paid little attention to the fine print. "And we all know the devil's in the details," Henderson says. "Remember, the FCC requires you to know where you may and may not operate and with what modes. Stick to the privileges your license allows or risk hearing from the FCC."

Minutes Continued

New Business:

Red Cross Radio Room: N3BXL mentioned that the Red Cross radio room is in need of maintenance he was not sure who was responsible for the room. KB3JSN mentioned that K3UFG maybe. He said that he would look into the matter.

KB3CAT mentioned that we should have a committee that is responsible for the maintenance of all club equipment.

KB3NAT mentioned that the V. A. radio room is presently in a state of disrepair due to window installation.

N3NKV mentioned that there is no Madison Hamfest this year.

N3NKV mentioned that the Ripley Hamfest will be held on May 6th.

Picnic: N3NKV reported that the picnic will be held sometime in July.

Upcoming public service events: N3NKV reported that the Edinboro Triathlon is back this year under a new name it is now known as the Hamot Sports Medicine Triathlon

50/50 Winner: KB3OFD $12.00

Motion to Adjourn made by KB3CAT at 7:50 PM. Seconded by K3GJK.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Lis
Radio Association of Erie Secretary

Interesting Special Event Stations

Apr 13-Apr 14, 0000Z-0400Z, Burley, WA. RF Wireless Amateur Radio Club of Burley, W1E. Annual Friday the Thirteenth QSO Party. 14.313 14.033 7.213 7.033

Apr 14-Apr 16, 1000Z-0547Z, Godalming, SU, ENGLAND. Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group, GB95MGY. 95th Anniversary of Loss of RMS Titanic. 21.015 14.015 7.015 3.015.

Apr 26-Apr 29, 1700Z-2200Z, Virginia Beach, VA. Virginia Beach Amateur Radio Club, W4UG. 400th Anniversary of the First Landing of English Settlers. 28.365 21.365 14.265 7.265.

Please make sure to check into the Erie County ARES/RACES/Skywarn Net
on Sunday Nights at 9 pm
on the 146.61 and 146.820 Repeaters

Iraqi Amateur Radio Shut Down Continues

ARRL NEWINGTON, CT, Mar 30, 2007 -- Iraq Amateur Radio Society (IARS) President Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, says a ham radio blackout in his country remains in effect, with no end in sight. As part of the new security plan in Baghdad, the Iraqi Ministry of Defense earlier this month requested that radio amateurs remain off the air until security improves. Because of a miscommunication, however, word failed to reach the Iraqi Communications and Media Commission, which still is issuing licenses.

Sayah chalks up the open-ended ham radio blackout to a misunderstanding of Amateur Radio on the part of the defense minister. Working through the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, the IARS has attempted -- so far without success -- to explain Amateur Radio to the Ministry of Defense. "Because it's between ministries, this will take time also," Sayah said this week, adding that he was not optimistic about meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki anytime soon. "Now anyone on the air is a pirate, as everyone is obliged not to use their radios at the present time," he added. He said IARS members continue making contacts using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) modes such as IRLP, *EchoLink* and others. The Ministry of Defense also had asked the IARS to store all licensees' ham radio equipment during the shutdown, but Sayah says that's not happening because of the dangerous situation that persists within the capital.

The ham radio shutdown affects non-Iraqi licensees, including members of the military and contractors holding YI9-prefix call signs. It does not apply to Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) operations, which use military frequencies.

Changes in ARRL Checking Programs

ARRL announced card checking program changes: The ARRL has announced some changes in the DXCC, WAS and VUCC card checking program rules. Effective immediately, the 10-year rule has been dropped for DXCC card checking. ARRL DXCC card checkers now have been authorized to check cards *for current entities only*, dating back to November 15, 1945. Card checkers still may not verify cards for 160-meter contacts nor cards confirming contacts with deleted entities. In addition, DXCC card checkers now may check applications for Worked All States Award (WAS) and The VHF/UHF Century Club Award (VUCC) if they agree to do so. For more information, contact DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, dxcc@arrl.org.

Radio Association of Erie
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LOCAL NET LISTING

Erie-Ft. Pierce Connection	14.340 USB	Daily	8:00 AM
6 Meter SSB	50.190 USB	Sunday	7:00 PM
Conneaut Radio Club Net	147.390(+) FM	Sunday	7:30 PM
Lake Erie Emergency Net	29.000 USB	Sunday	8:00 pm
Ashtabula County ARC Net	28.350 USB	Sunday	8:00 PM
ARES/SKYWARN Net	146.610(-) FM	Sunday	9:00 PM
2 meter AM NET	144.450 AM	Monday	8:00 PM
Mailbag Net	146.700(-) FM	M-F	8:00 PM
440 Simplex Net	446.100 FM Simples	Tuesday	8:00 PM
Radio Amateurs of Corry	28.330 USB	Tuesday	8:00 PM
6 Meter AM	50.520 AM	Wednesday	7:00 PM
Novice-Tech Net	28.400 USB	Wednesday	8:30 PM
Radio Amateurs of Corry	147.090(+) FM	Thursday	8:00 PM
Ashtabula County ARC Net	146.715(-) FM	Thursday	8:00 PM
2 Meter SSB	144.210 AM	Friday	8:00 PM
Flintstone RTTY Net	28.280 RTTY	Saturday	8:30 pm